EPHRAIM AND NANCY ELIZABETH BETHERS SMITH

Ephraim Smith was born in September, 1833, in Tennessee, son of Richard and Diana Bragtal.

He married Nancy Elizabeth Bethers on September 28, 1852, and they were parents of 12 children.

Ephraim died on December 28, 1898.

Nancy died on September 4, 1931.

She was a daughter of Zadock S. and Sarah Collins Bethers. She moved to Council Bluffs and was there six years before leaving for Utah in the fall of 1852 with her parents in the Joseph Cuthouse company.

Sarah Collins Bethers, the mother, was a weaver, so she brought her spinning wheel and looms, also wool, yarn and thread. Sarah and her daughters, Mary Jane and Nancy Elizabeth, carded the wool, spun thread and wove cloth from which clothing for all the family was made. Pioneers around St. George planted cotton and flax from seed they brought with them, and they sent some of these products to the weavers in Heber to be used in weaving cloth.

Nancy's sister, Mary Jane, and Asa B. York were married on her (Nancy's) wedding day, at Provo, by James E. Snow.

Ephraim's parents crossed the plains to Utah in 1850. His mother walked the entire distance, because she was afraid of buffalo stampeding through the wagon trains.

In 1860, Ephraim and Nancy, with their family, moved to Heber City, where they built a log cabin and later a large cabin used as a fort to protect women and children. Indians were very bad. They stole cattle and horses and then brought them back, demanding money for them. They stole and returned one of Ephraim's horses five times. The last time he refused to give them money.

This condition finally became intolerable, so the matter was taken up with Brigham Young by Ephraim Smith, who stated that it was absolutely necessary that something be done to stop this depredation. A meeting between the whites and Indians was called. Chief Tabby and some of his braves came in and camped at Ephraim's place. Nancy and other women cooked for them.

At the meeting the Indians were told that if they did not stop stealing, the settlers would have to call out the soldiers and the Indians would be killed. The Indians agreed not to steal any more and the "peace pipe" was passed to all present.

Ephraim had the first and only tannery in Heber. He learned his trade in Tennessee before coming to Utah. He stripped bark from oak trees in the canyons near Heber and hauled to the tannery. He used the Hopper mill to grind the bark, the first mill used to grind flour for the Smiths and others and was the only flour mill for some time. Mr. Smith employed five men at his tannery, making harnesses and shoes and mending shoes. He also made fiddles and violins.

When the Salt Lake Temple was started he sent a team to help in the work and he hauled sandstone rock from Heber for the foundation. He used a spirit level to level a canal which brought water from Provo River into the valley for irrigation purposes.

They were the parents of 12 children: David Ephraim, Hetty Esther Ann, Millie Jane, Joseph Marion, William Albert, James Andrew, Sarah Dinah, Thomas Edward,

add 482

Agnes Elizabeth, Phoebe Jannett, Mary May and George Richard.

Heber Matron Observes 80th Birthday Here

As 1940 drew to a close, Mrs. Joseph Smith of Heber became 80 years old and entered her sixtieth year of married life. Mrs. Smith was 80 on the last day of the year. Just missing being a New Years baby on that day 80 years ago when she was born into the family of a Scottish coal miner.

A few days prior to her birthday this year, Mrs. Smith and her husband quietly observed their 59th wedding anniversary and entered on their 60th year of married life. Mr. Smith was 80 in September.

Mrs. Smith was born in Scotland and came to America, and Heber, when she was only two years old. Her father was killed in a coal mine disaster, and her mother joined the Mormon church and brought her eight children to Zion's land of promise. Church funds brought the family here, but with typical pioneer integrity, the five boys of the family secured work and repaid every cent the voyage cost them.

As Isabell Lindsay, Mrs. Smith grew to womanhood in Heber, not paying much attention to a strapping young man named Joe Smith until she reached the age of about 18. Then they met while working for the same employer in Red Pine canyon, and from there on it was only a question of time. The time came about two years later, when they were married the day following Christmas in 1881.

Mr. Smith was born in Heber only a year after the valley was permanently settled, and claims with a twinkle in his eye, that he trudged out to London creek at the age of two and met Isabell when she first arrived in the valley. His father, Ephriam Smith built the valley's first tannery, made the first shoes ever maufactured here, and brought the valley's first threshing machine from Provo. The rock home built by his father at the corner of Fourth East and Fourth North street holds many fond memories for Heber people who were young a long time ago. Its upp story was converted into a dance hall and many a pioneer waltz and hoedown took place within the old sand rock walls.

Joe and Bell reared 11 children, and they live today in the frame house which he built, every joint and sill, in 1883. His pioneer bride, though, was not one to stand idlyy by, even if it was a man's work of building a house. And take it from her husband, ... good carpen-